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Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 12770 101309Z

53
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /009 W
---------- 043936
R 101122Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO DAVID BENJAMIN
PRESIDENT OF US TENNIS ASSOCIATION
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY
SECSTATE WASHDC 7707

UNCLAS LAGOS 12770

FOR AF/W

ORGANIZERS OF OGBE HARD COURT TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS
SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN BENIN CITY, NIGERIA IN TEN DAYS, HAVE
URGENTLY REQUESTED "CURRENT INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS RANKINGS"
FOR AMERICANS WHO HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED IN TOURNAMENT. BASED
ON POSSIBLY INCOMPLETE INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO ME IN
LAGOS, THESE PLAYERS ARE: PETER FISHBACH, GREAT NECK, N.Y.:
LARRY PARKER, HOUSTON: AND GUILLERMO ORAPEZ, MONTCLAIR,
NEW JERSEY. YOU MAY KNOW OF OTHERS INTENDING TO PARTICIPATE.

I WOULD MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR CABLING ME ANY INFORMATION ON
RANKING OR STANDARD OF PLAY OF THESE THREE AMERICANS. AND ANY
OTHERS. THIS WILL ASSIST TORNAMENT ORGANIZERS IN PREPARING
APPROPRIATE SEEDINGS. APPROXIMATELY TWENTY-FIVE FOREIGN ENTRIES FROM
SIXTEEN COUNTRIES ARE ANTICIPATED IN MEN'S SINGLES, INCLUDING
FEAVER, WAYMAN, SEARS AND ROBIN DRYSDALE FROM BRITAIN. AT
LEAST TWELVE FOREIGN WOMEN ENTRIES HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED, ONE OF WHICH
I UNDERSTAND IS AMERICAN. OGBE COMMITTEE HAS GIVEN ME FOLLOW-
ING ADDRESS TO CONTACT ON RANKINGS: 10738 WEST PICO BOULE-
VARD, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90064. AS ADDRESS APPEARS
INCOMPLETE, I HAVE NOT RPT NOT COMMUNICATED WITH THEM. IN
ADDITION ABOVE INFORMATION, OGBE COMMITTEE WHICH OPERATING
ON STRINGENCY BUDGET IN SPITE OF DOLS 40,000 IN PRIZES, HAS
APPEALED FOR ANY POSSIBLE FINANCIAL SUPPORT THAT USTA MIGHT PROVIDE.
THEY SUGGESTED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT USTA PICK UP FISHBACH'S TICKET
EXPENSE WHICH THEY AGREED FINANCE. ASSUMING YOUR FINANCIAL
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PAGE 02 LAGOS 12770 101309Z

ASSISTANCE NOT RPT NOT POSSIBLE, I BELIEVE MORAL SUPPORT

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

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IN FORM OF MESSAGE FROM USTA AND/OR TOP NAMED AMERICAN PLAYERS WOULD
BE MUCH APPRECIATED AND WOULD WELL SERVE OUR MUTUAL INTEREST IN TENNI
S
AS AN INSTRUMENT OF INTERNATIONAL GOOD WILL. I WILL BE PRESENT
IN BENIN CITY THROUGHOUT THE TOURNAMENT AS WELL AS COMPETING IN
VETERANS CATEGORY, AND COULD ASSURE APPROPRIATE USE OF ANY SUCH
MESSAGE, REGARDS. DONALD EASUM, AMERICAN AMBASSADOR
EASUM

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ATHLETIC PRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LAGOS12770
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760418-1268
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761163/aaaacckv.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: oatisao
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUL 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <26 AUG 2004 by oatisao>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: SCUL
To: BENJAMIN DAVID
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006